



Davis United World College Scholars

PROGRAM

CELEBRATING
TEN YEARS
TOGETHER

SKIDMORE
C O L L E G E

PRESENTED TO

Shelby M.C. Davis
and Philip O. Geier

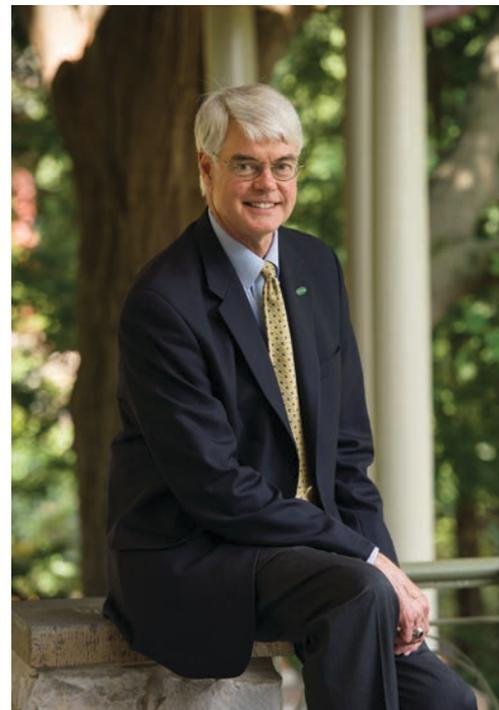
*On the occasion of the
Davis United World College Scholars Program
celebrating ten years with Skidmore College*

SKIDMORE
C O L L E G E

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A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT GLOTZBACH

The tenth anniversary of the Davis United World College (UWC) Scholars Program at Skidmore College is both a happy and a meaningful occasion for all of us.



When I think of the many Davis UWC Scholars I have been privileged to meet, I see clearly the results of Shelby Davis and Phil Geier's vision of creating opportunities for deserving young people from across the globe to advance themselves (and their nations) through education. Shelby and Gale Davis's philanthropic generosity has touched not only the lives of these students and the entire College but countless people throughout the world. Shelby and Phil's partnership is a truly inspirational example of the power of transformative philanthropy and international leadership.

The Davis UWC Scholars Program has catalyzed international education at Skidmore. Ten years ago, international students comprised one percent of our student body. This year, 217 members of the student body (or 8.6 percent) hail from 66

countries outside the United States and an additional six percent hold dual citizenship. In the past six years we have hired 12 international faculty members into tenure-track positions. Recently, the College also has seen a 165 percent rise in applications from outside the United States, increasing from roughly 600 international applications in 2012 to around 1,600 (almost 20 percent of our total applications) in 2014. Staff members from the Office of Admissions typically travel to roughly 30 countries around the world to recruit students. They have seen all 12 (soon to be 14) UWC campuses, visit most of them annually, and strive to maintain an enrollment of at least 40 Davis UWC Scholars. These numbers are telling, but much more important are the significant contributions our Davis UWC Scholars have made across virtually every dimension of the life of our



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217

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12

International faculty members in tenure-track positions

campus community—holding leadership roles in clubs and organizations, playing on athletic teams, participating in the Kathryn Wasserman Davis Projects for Peace program, and bringing their unique perspectives to classroom discussions.

Over this time, we have made concerted efforts to become a more globally engaged college. We encourage our students (including our Davis UWC Scholars) to venture abroad in ever-greater numbers. Today, roughly 60 percent of students study abroad by the time they graduate. Our Friendship Family program provides support, cross-cultural, and (often) intergenerational engagement between international students and local residents. Networking events with the Chamber of Commerce and our international students have helped Saratoga Springs evolve as a

more globally minded community. Our faculty created an International Affairs major. Our English as a Second Language program provides writing support for all English-language learners. Our alumni who live and work in countries throughout the world have become a valuable resource for current students and the College: assisting with admissions outreach, organizing career networks, providing internship opportunities and generally flying the flag for the College and the power of liberal education. In short, both Skidmore's international character and our capacity to develop our students' intercultural competency have grown tremendously.

All of this robust international activity flows directly from the College's mission and strategic vision, but it most certainly



Skidmore College Davis UWC Scholars gather with President Glotzbach to celebrate 2014 Student Philanthropy Day.

has been encouraged and assisted by the transformative effect of the Davis United World College Scholars Program on our campus. As has been the case at so many other colleges and universities, this program has enhanced our effectiveness in the area of global engagement, and it helps us better prepare our students to meet the rich and daunting challenges of today's world. Thank you so much, Shelby and Gale, Phil and Amy, for your vision, generosity, and tireless efforts on behalf of all of us.

Sincerely,

Philip A. Glotzbach
President

DAVIS UNITED WORLD COLLEGE SCHOLARS AT SKIDMORE

At the time Skidmore College applied to participate in the Davis UWC Scholars Program, fewer than ten international students were studying at the College, and only a few graduates of United World Colleges joined our community. Today, 217 international students call Skidmore home.

Davis UWC Scholars at Skidmore have a wonderful track record of student engagement. Working hard in our classrooms and laboratories, Davis UWC Scholars have received departmental and College honors; earned Filene Scholarships and Projects for Peace grants; been selected for dual-degree programs; implemented SEE-Beyond Program (summer educational experiences); and participated in faculty-student collaborative research. In the co-curricular community, Davis UWC Scholars emerge as club and class leaders. Several have also been selected to serve as Peer Mentors for our First-Year Experience Scribner Seminars. Their post-graduate experiences include a Lantos-Humanity in Action Congressional Fellowship; serving as an English language

instructor for Skidmore's Teach in China program; enrolling in Ph.D., law, and master's degree programs; studying at the Monterey Institute; and engaging in various employment opportunities.

As more and more students from around the world find their way into Skidmore's classrooms, the conversations both in and out of the learning community become more diverse, more global, and more inclusive. Resulting first from their experience living and learning in the global community of the UWCs, Davis UWC Scholars bring a distinct, expansive perspective to their academic dialogue at Skidmore. This exchange of idea is beneficial to our student community,





2011 gathering of Skidmore Davis UWC Scholars.

which comes from across the United States and around the world.

Skidmore's Davis UWC Scholars enthusiastically engage in the city of Saratoga Springs. For instance, Davis UWC Scholars participate in Skidmore's Friendship Family Program, a sign of the Scholars' interests in personal and cross-cultural relations that augment their college experience. These relationships often lead to a deeper understanding of the Saratoga Springs community for our students, all the while expanding the world view of our hosts.

The Davis Projects for Peace grants, generated by the philanthropy of Kathryn Wasserman Davis, continue to inspire

a spirited, annual competition among Skidmore students to develop creative, grassroots programs with the aim of waging peace in the world. These projects catalyze Davis UWC Scholars to bring sustainable ideas back to their homelands and offer their American classmates a rare opportunity to put their peace-promoting ideas into action. Such endeavors make creative thought happen while manifesting students' concerns for others in the spirit of Mrs. Davis.

Davis UWC Scholars work to further the mission shared by all UWCs around the world, which is to make education a force to unite people, nations, and cultures for peace and a sustainable future.



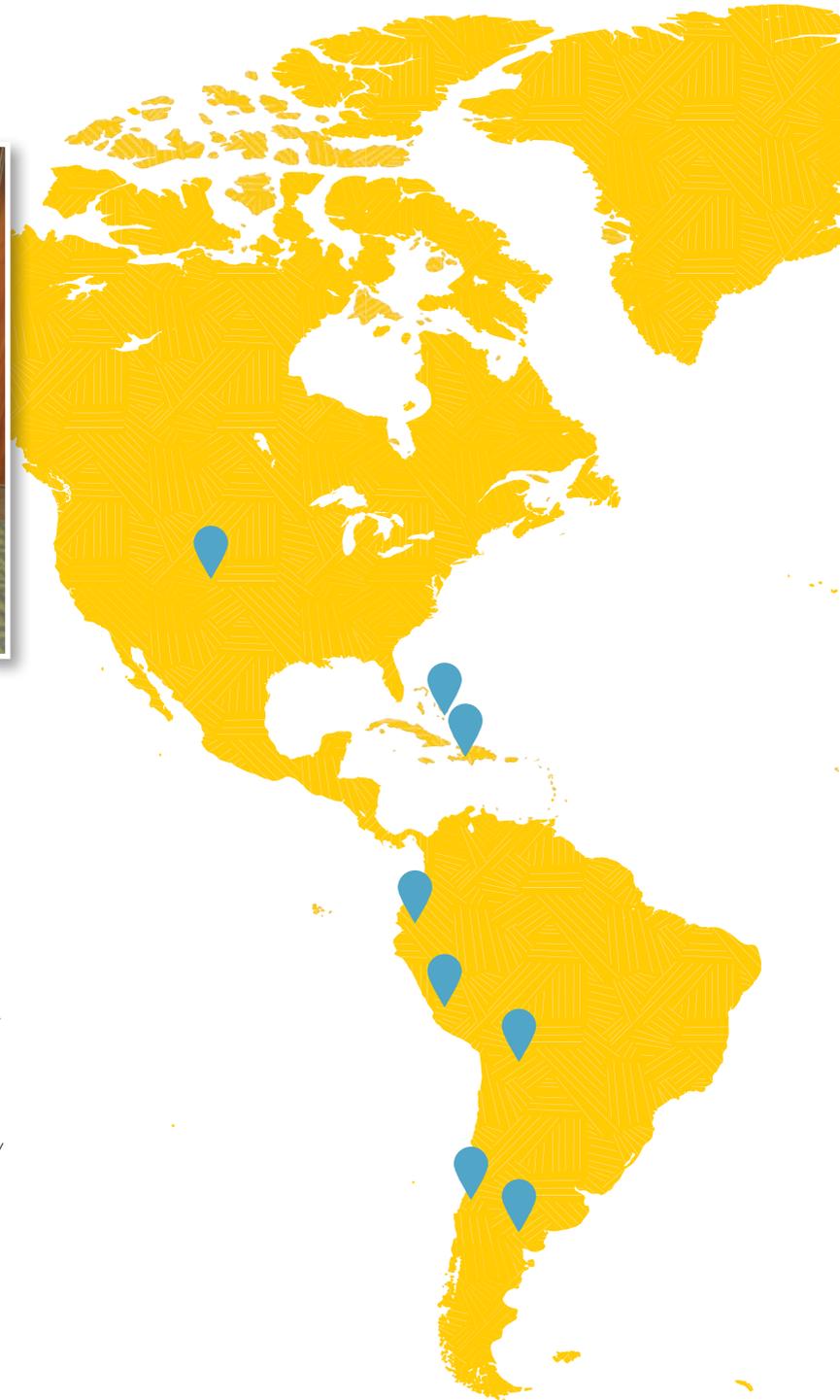
FROM AROUND THE WORLD

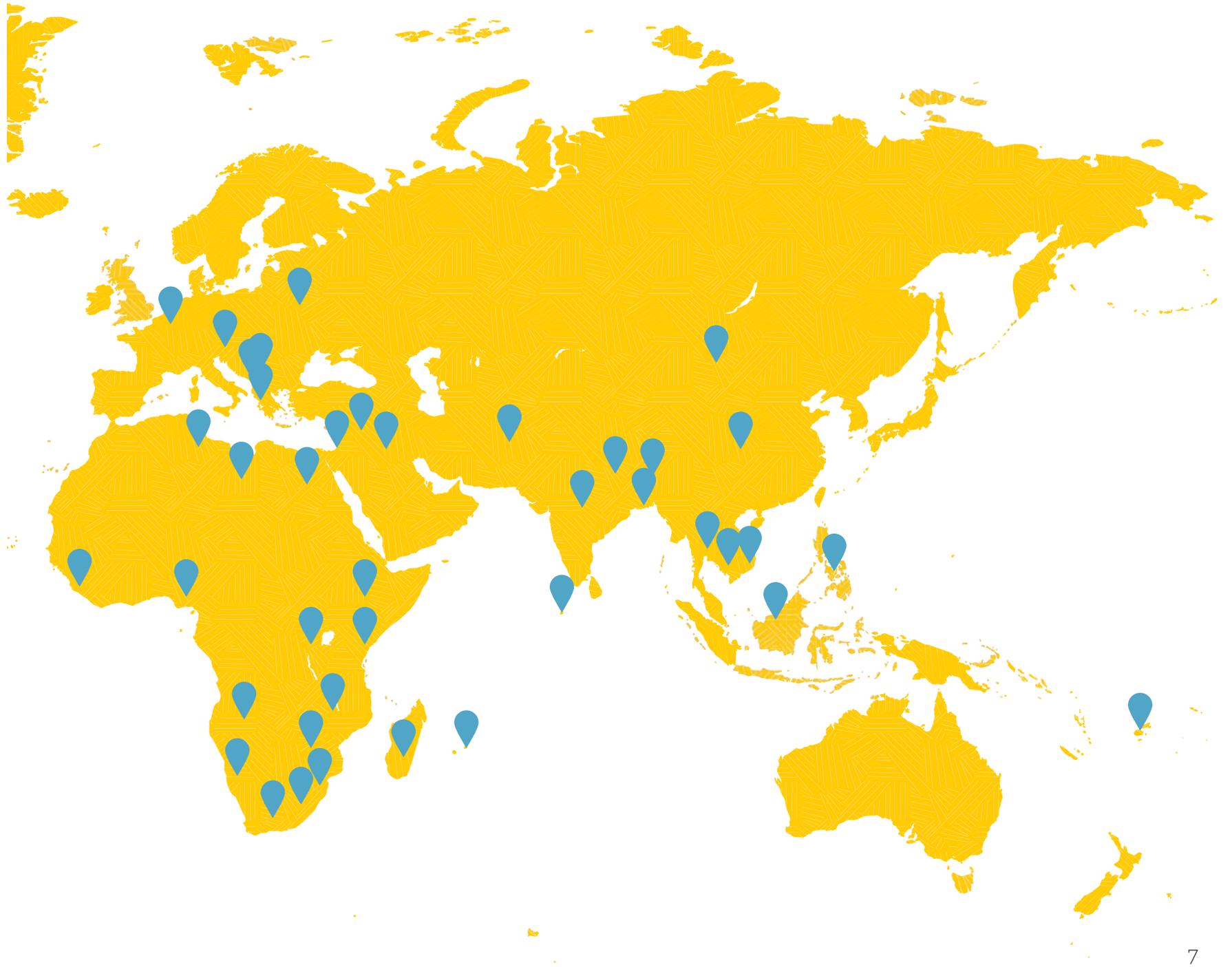


March 2008 campus visit by Dr. Phil Geier, Co-Founder and Executive Director of the Davis United World College Scholars Program.

*Since 2008, Skidmore College has welcomed
86 Davis UWC Scholars from 48 countries.*

*Afghanistan / Albania / Angola / Argentina / Austria / The Bahamas /
Bangladesh / Belarus / Belgium / Bhutan / Bolivia / Cambodia /
Chile / China / Ecuador / Egypt / Ethiopia / Fiji / Gaza Strip /
Haiti / India / Iraq / Kenya / Lesotho / Libya / Madagascar / Malawi /
Malaysia / Maldives / Mauritius / Mongolia / Montenegro / Namibia /
Nepal / Nigeria / Peru / Phillipines / Rwanda / Serbia / Sierra Leone /
South Africa / Swaziland / Syria / Thailand / Tunisia / United States /
Vietnam / Zimbabwe*





DAVIS UWC SCHOLARS HAVE SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO TELL YOU



Summer 2012 Davis Projects for Peace implementation in Sierra Leone.



Musa Komeh '15 (Sierra Leone, UWC Red Cross Nordic) with Summer 2014 Clinton Foundation interns.



JOSEPH BEN KAIFALA '08

I just completed my JD and Certificate in International Law at Vermont Law School. I spent my Optional Practical Training year as an American Society of International Law Helton Fellow working for the Sierra Leone Memory Project to conduct historical documentation of the Sierra Leonean civil war.

After Red Cross Nordic United World College I could have followed my friends to the other U.S. colleges already full of UWC students, but I chose a road less travelled and became one of the first UWC students at Skidmore. I remain grateful for that decision and the wonderful opportunities Skidmore College provided. Skidmore granted me the opportunity to engage in serious academic work with guidance from devoted faculty and staff, which prepared me for the rigor of a legal career. I also met friends who have become family to me. Skidmore provided the initial tools for the founding of my nonprofit, Jeneba Project Inc., and some of my biggest donors are still Skidmore faculty and staff members.

The Davis scholarship, in addition to that provided by Skidmore, granted me an opportunity to become a civic leader and a humanitarian. I have always considered the Davis scholarship an investment in my potential, and it has become my duty to produce some dividends for society. I believe that educating the young is the best investment in the future of the world, but most especially in the future of Africa. The work of the Jeneba Project is centered on education as the engine of personal

and community development. The Davis scholarship gave me the opportunity to pursue this path.

I am deeply grateful for the opportunity you have granted me. Nelson Mandela said, "what limits Africa is not a lack of potential, but the absence of opportunities." I ascribe to this view, and I believe that what you did for me was to offer me the opportunity to solidify my potential in the leadership and service of my people. As a child who grew up in two civil wars and a refugee camp, my life was consumed by tragedy and all the consequences of war and poverty, but you gave me the opportunity to transform the dreams of a fat-belly-large-head kid into reality, and by so doing, you set in motion the full realization of my potential and the chance to contribute toward making the world a better place. Most revolutions come with fanfare, but yours has been a quiet revolution with the greatest ripple producing a ferment of change in the most obscure corners of the world. Throughout the world, your graduates stand tall and committed to offering returns on your investment in their individual communities at home. Congratulations on this honor and welcome to the Skidmore family. Thank you!



"The Davis scholarship, in addition to that provided by Skidmore, granted me an opportunity to become a civic leader and a humanitarian."

SIERRA LEONE



"I seize everything life has to offer me because I do not want to waste the great advantage that being a Davis United World College Scholar gave me."

SONATE OMOLARA GANDONU-SOLOMON '10

I am currently in New York City working as a research technician at New York University School of Medicine, specifically on the Human Microbiome Project, and studying for my master's in public administration at New York University's Robert F. Wagner School of Public Service.

My life today is absolutely amazing as a result of everything I experienced at Skidmore College. I made some of my best friends there, and we are still very much in touch. They are all excited for me, as I am expecting a baby who will be born on October 5! The scholarship alone was a God send, and it enabled me to study abroad and explore other disciplines outside of my preferred field, science. Receiving the scholarship also taught me gratitude, and I have never taken the opportunities it afforded me for granted. I seize everything life has to offer me because I do not want to waste the great advantage that being a Davis United World College Scholar gave me.

I am currently embarking on a career change from pure life sciences into global public health, therefore currently I am working on my MPA. I hope to work with health organizations and to be able to influence policy making and infrastructure building, especially in the underdeveloped world. There are no words that describe my gratitude to Shelby Davis and Phil Geier. I am the envy of many of my peers by how much I have been exposed to academically, socially, and mentally. All world matters now affect me personally because they affect somebody I know from UWC. I also attended a premier private college. Thank you and bless you! I hope one day I can make you proud.

NIGERIA



ETHIOPIA

« Tesfahunegn Hailu Sina '17

I am currently a volunteer at Red Cross Nordic United World College. In the future, I want to go back to Ethiopia and do my part in helping my country. I have a plan to start an organization that works with street children. Thank you so much for helping me fulfill my dream. I am glad that you are part of my success. Thank you.

CHINA

Yaomingxin Lu '14

Currently I am working as a Graduate Teaching Assistant at Ohio State University. My future goals include finishing my Ph.D. in math, after which I would like to become a college professor.

Thanks a lot for all you have given to us. Without UWC, I would not be the person I am today.



ARGENTINA

» Ayelen Pagnanelli '14

I am in New York City interning at BRIC, an arts non-profit in Brooklyn. Being at Skidmore has allowed me to take on many opportunities, such as working at a non-profit that creates contemporary art exhibitions and provides programming for the local community at a very low cost, merging my passion for art and a desire to give back to the community.

What you do makes a difference in our lives and in the world, because we all want to give back in any way we can.

ZIMBABWE

« Langa Bakhuluma-Ncube '18

I am currently in Zimbabwe on a gap year, working part time in a clothing boutique. I would like to pursue a master's degree after my undergraduate degree, return to South Africa, and have an impact similar to the UWC movement.

I would like to thank Mr. Davis and Dr. Geier for giving me a once in a lifetime opportunity to further my education at Skidmore College. I thank you both for your continued support and the positive impact you have had on so many students' lives. Mazvita/Ngyiabonga!! Thank you!!



"I thank you both for your continued support and the positive impact you have had on so many students' lives."

– Langa Bakhuluma-Ncube '18



SIERRA LEONE
» Musa Bernard Komeh '15

I am a senior majoring in health and exercise science. In addition to my academics, I am a Peer Health Education Mentor, Chair of Late Night Advisory Committee, and adviser to the International Student Union.

Being a Davis Scholar has inspired me to play my part in saving humanity. My passion to contribute to the promotion of healthcare for disadvantaged groups keeps increasing.

I have my sights on graduate school and hope to get a master's degree in public health (epidemiology). I see myself as a health specialist/consultant working toward improving healthcare systems in developing countries.

Thanks to Mr. Davis and Dr. Geier for all your support during my undergraduate studies. I have and continue to gain a lot from your generosity.

.....
NGIYABONGA KAKHULU
A Zulu phrase meaning "Thanks a lot"



SWAZILAND
Themba S.M. Shongwe '18

I am starting my first year at Skidmore College.

The Davis UWC Scholarship has opened an opportunity for me to study at a world class institution and has allowed me to meet more people and share common experiences. I believe all that I learn will benefit me and my community back home.

My future goal is to be able to go into social entrepreneurship while working and growing my non-governmental organization (currently not licensed).



MALAWI
Ashley Angathe Saiwa '17

I am currently interning at the Millennium Challenge Account Malawi. Because of my experience at Skidmore, I am more courageous and determined. Thanks for the inspiration.

I would like to say thank you. UWC opened up a new world to me. I never thought I would have a Muslim best friend, but I did while at UWC-USA. I also got the chance to start projects back home. Anyone can do that but it gave me the opportunity to do it while integrating strategies I learned from my friends around the world. I even got the chance to educate my schoolmates about AIDS, an epidemic that has torn through my country. Ngiyabonga Kakhulu!

SWAZILAND
» Phiwokuhle Shongwe '14

I am working for the Swaziland Posts and Telecommunications Corporation as a financial systems analyst intern. I hope to complete my engineering degree at Dartmouth and then continue on to get a master's degree.

Receiving a Davis United World College scholarship helped me a great deal, as I don't think I would have been able to afford the prestigious education I got from Skidmore.

As mathematicians would say, "My thanks tend toward infinity for your support in my education."

MLUNGISI MIL-G NDWANDWE '10

I am currently a business transformation senior consultant at Sun Life Financial, U.S. –working from the U.S. headquarters in Wellesley Hills, MA. My responsibilities include business model redesign, strategic planning and execution, process optimization, and organizational development.

This comes after successfully completing the Rotational Leadership Development Program: a three-year accelerated executive management training exercise to create a future leadership talent pipeline for the business. I am the Chairperson of Cross-Cultural Continuum—a business resource group whose mission is to “cultivate and empower exceptional talent who have a passion for excellence and demonstrate exemplary professionalism, and to attract and retain leaders from diverse backgrounds by creating a work environment that is inclusive and adequately conducive for growth, and to drive lasting business results by providing resources, sharing knowledge, building capacity, forging partnerships and serving our community.” I’m also a visiting professor at Skidmore College. Every semester for the past two years, I have been teaching a section of a class that empowers graduating seniors with tools to successfully navigate the job search process as well as position themselves for early career success.

Skidmore was a great preparation for the world I was to face after graduating—both, intellectually and socially. It not only provided me with a great opportunity to challenge myself by interrogating (and even abandoning) some of my assumptions

about how the world works, it also helped me grow personally by understanding how to navigate and solve complex situations by employing intellectual curiosity and humility, creative thought, and resilience.

Being a Davis scholar has definitely made me all the more conscious of the impact that one can have on the lives of others. Once one experiences the kindness of strangers, the desire to pay it forward comes almost naturally. One of the ways I am doing so right now is through producing a music album that is aimed at raising money for orphaned children in Swaziland, who constitute upwards of 15 percent of the country’s population.

In my greatest aspiration, I am a great businessman / entrepreneur / investor—running and investing in many businesses—and by so doing, adding value to people’s lives. In the near-term, I plan to go to business school, and in the long term, I hope to create positive change in Swaziland.

Words alone will never be enough; I promise to be a force for good in the world in hopes that it will be a worthwhile return on your investment. Thank you!



“Being a Davis scholar has definitely made me all the more conscious of the impact that one can have on the lives of others.”

SWAZILAND



"This scholarship has made many dreams come true, and now I dream to make someone else's dream come true."

NIKHITA WINKLER '15

I am currently a senior at Skidmore College, pursuing a double major in dance and neuroscience. I am also busy working on and raising funds for a project that will hopefully take place in Namibia next summer with the goal to motivate the youth through reengaging them with their bodies.

I have grown so much over my years at Skidmore College. I have grown to trust myself and my ideas because the community here is very supportive. In the Dance Department, I have been nurtured to create unique work that tells my story. I have also learned a great deal in the Neuroscience Department: knowledge that has led me to live a healthier and less stressful lifestyle, and which has given me a better understanding of how the body and mind are integrated. Skidmore provided me with a plethora of opportunities such as studying in another school for a semester. While studying in Miami for a semester, I began to really appreciate Skidmore and how well-educated and challenged we are here. At Skidmore we

have a very passionate community. It is very encouraging to be creative in such an environment, always remembering that "Creative Thought Matters." Most importantly, I have met the best friends, professors, and co-workers at Skidmore. I am most thankful for that because these are connections that will last a lifetime.

Without the Davis UWC scholarship, I would not have had the education I have today. Knowledge is everything. I cannot even imagine what my life would be like without this gift. This scholarship has made many dreams come true, and now I dream to make someone else's dream come true. I believe in education, and I believe in giving back to the community.

NAMIBIA



In the near future, I am excited for my project in Namibia, which I have been working on for almost a year. The goal of the project is to motivate Namibia's youth and to provide them with resources that will help them believe in and follow their dreams. This project will also provide students with ways to be more engaged in their education, as well as to reduce stress in their lives, which is a major contributor to poor performance at school. The workshops I will be giving will also help students to gain

control over themselves and their emotions, and through that to be the conductor of their own destiny. In addition, I am also looking forward to an internship in India next summer. This internship is a wonderful opportunity to travel and to work with children who have autism and cerebral palsy alongside other therapists. Since I plan to acquire a master's in Movement Therapy, this internship is a great way to be exposed to the field of therapy.

Thank you Mr. Davis and Dr. Geier for giving me the opportunity to have the best education. Because of your support I live a life that I once only dreamed of. I have become a citizen of the world who is working toward serving others so that their dreams can come true. You helped me start my journey in life and for that I am forever grateful. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

ZIMBABWE

» Romeo Makore '15

I am currently a senior at Skidmore College majoring in business. In terms of how my life is going today as a result of my education—it is really hard to find the words! I feel that my experience at Skidmore has been enriching and empowering. I have learned a lot, and my time here has opened up opportunities that would not have been possible if it wasn't for Skidmore College. I am part of a network of UWC students at Skidmore, which creates a strong and solid support system for me, as well as provides great friends.



After I finish my bachelor's degree, I hope to enroll at Northeastern University for a dual master's degree program: a master's in accounting, and an MBA; at the end of the program I will be eligible to sit for the CPA exam. After that, I plan to be a CPA with PricewaterhouseCoopers and work hard as an associate until I make partner.

Being a Davis Scholar has been such an honor, and I embrace the values that the Davis United World College Program stands for. I am so grateful for such an opportunity and will hold the UWC ideals I have learned close as I continue to plan my future!

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"Mr. Davis and Dr. Geier, your work and support have allowed so many of us to discover and live through experiences that we would have never thought possible."

– Alexia Muhire Nshuti '18



RWANDA

» Alexia Muhire Nshuti '18

I am starting my first year at Skidmore College, and I am trying to shape my life, and the future in general, as much as I can. Although this is my first semester at Skidmore, I can guarantee that this college will have an impact on me. I do not know exactly how it will yet, but I had the same feeling on my first day at UWC Atlantic, and I can tell you that I was right.

Currently I am planning on majoring in economics, and I plan to attend a graduate school. After I finish my degree, I will be adventurous! I want to travel and have some incredible stories to tell. I cannot go straight after my degree and pretend I am going to save the world. I first need to experience

the world myself, try to understand the problems and the possible solutions, and then be able to change something about it after I've lived through it firsthand. After I've done some traveling, I will eventually go back home, to the countries that helped shape the person I am today, to the countries that helped me be aware of the inequality we live in; and it will be my turn to shape what is missing.

Mr. Davis and Dr. Geier, your work and support have allowed so many of us to discover and live through experiences that we would have never thought possible. I thank you for this amazing education you made available to us and hope you realize how much we appreciate it. Thank you!

MARIA MAYBOECK '16

I am studying abroad in Washington, D.C. I enrolled in the course Conflict Transformation in the Middle East and Beyond, which has a travel component to Bosnia, Herzegovina, and Jordan.

After my semester here in Washington D.C., I will spend the next semester in Buenos Aires, Argentina, dedicating my studies to my second regional interest: Latin America. Apart from looking forward to living and learning in a South American country, I am hoping to build on the Spanish skills that I acquired in Costa Rica.

Skidmore College has given me the freedom to learn about myself and my interests. I entered Skidmore intending to study art and psychology, but changed my mind during my first semester. Realizing that, after two years in such a diverse environment like a UWC, I could not ignore international affairs, I decided to study it. Incredible professors have supported my passion for the subject and given me insight and valuable knowledge. I think I can say that Skidmore College has both given me the freedom to choose my area of studies and the academia to support my pursuit in this career.

My Davis scholarship allowed me to not only come to the United States and pursue my studies in an international environment; it has also allowed me to discover my interests, strengths, and weaknesses. Back home in Austria, a liberal arts education does not exist. I would not have had the chance to try out various fields of study before settling on one (or two) if I had studied in Austria. It is due to the

scholarship that it is financially possible for my family to provide me with this immense opportunity to pursue my goals at an American college.

In the future, I plan on obtaining a master's degree and work with IGOs and NGOs on the improvement of intercultural dialogue. Diplomacy is another path that I am considering. Eventually, however, I plan on going into teaching—maybe even at one or more UWC. During my education at UWC, I learned how important neutrally conveyed education is in an international environment. I firmly believe that through tolerant, critical, and open education, misunderstandings between cultures can be prevented, and the differences turned into something positive, something that deserves to be celebrated. I hope to become an advocate for the importance of international and multicultural education and contribute to that work myself.

I believe during my time at UWC and Skidmore I have started to understand better your motivation to support international and multicultural education. I admire and appreciate your incredible initiative to make this world a better place by enabling dialogue between students from all over the world, while also giving us the opportunity to return to our countries as educated young individuals with a passion and a mission to change this world for the better. Thank you!



AUSTRIA



"Without the support of this scholarship, I would have never been afforded the great educational opportunity that I enjoyed for four years at Skidmore College."

MIKHAIL YAHORAVICH REUTSKI '13

I am currently working as a business development manager for an information technology company in my home country of Belarus.

My education at Skidmore College gave me a significant advantage and allowed me to secure a job at an international company. It is a big honor, as well as a tremendous help, to have received a Davis United World College scholarship. Without the support of this scholarship, I would have never been afforded the great educational opportunity that I enjoyed for four years at Skidmore College. My future goal as I envision it now is to get in a position where I can make an impact on my country's economy and its relationship with other countries. Working in the area of international trade is where I see myself in the next five years.

I would like to express my gratitude to Mr. Davis and Dr. Geier for their support of UWC graduates. Their investment in us has produced a tremendous impact on the lives of the scholarship recipients, giving us an opportunity to receive an education at top American universities and colleges. This investment will also have a long-term effect that is yet to be seen, and that effect is respect, tolerance, and peaceful and constructive relations between people and countries they come from. That is the way I see it. So, thank you once again for your support!

BELARUS

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IRAQ

« Wisam Khaleefah '11

I am in Indiana, currently working as a manager of the International Refugee Resettlement Program at the American Red Cross.

Being a Davis UWC Scholar has opened many doors for me and allowed me to follow my life goals. I was challenged to do my best to serve others in need and to work for the cause of peace, justice, and mutual understanding.

I am extremely grateful for the unconditional love and support you have given me. You have made it possible for me to live in a peaceful environment, complete my education, and follow my dreams. Without your help I would not have been able to be at the place where I am today, and I thank you for that. I will continue to support your effort to provide invaluable educational opportunities to students from around the world.

ETHIOPIA

Helen Alemayehu Mebrate '16

I am currently back in my home country of Ethiopia for a short summer vacation. I spend a lot of my time visiting family and friends. I am very happy to be back after two years in the USA.

Being a part of the Davis United World College Scholarship Program has greatly impacted my life from the very small everyday decisions to bigger decisions. It is because of this great opportunity that I have decided to major in environmental studies. I have learned to care so much about the environment. I have made it my agenda. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.



MADAGASCAR

Miary Ambinintsoa Rasoanaivo '18

On behalf of my fellow Davis UWC-mates and other Malagasy students who are and have benefited from your enormous generosity, thank you Mr. Davis and Dr. Geier for this priceless opportunity! I am so grateful to you, not only because of the scholarship, but especially for the trust and hope you are putting in us and on the UWC mission.



Skidmore Davis UWC Scholars gather to celebrate UWC's 50th Anniversary in October 2012.

"You have made it possible for me to live in a peaceful environment, complete my education, and follow my dreams."

– Wisam Khaleefah '11



BOLIVIA

Yamile Villarroel Caldera '17

I'm studying at Skidmore College with a major in biology and double minor in health & exercise science and Italian. My life has changed a lot since I came to Skidmore because it gave me a new perspective of what I want to do with my life.

The fact that I attended UWC of the Adriatic gave me the chance to make my dreams come true, even though it is just the first step. One of my future goals is to become a doctor and then get a job at the World Health Organization. Thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to make a change in the world through education, and for helping me to achieve my goals.

SWAZILAND

« **Kwanele Prince Tsabedze '16**

I am a junior at Skidmore College, double majoring in business and economics.

Being a Davis United World College scholar at Skidmore has broadened my understanding of what "teaching a person to fish" means. My future has been influenced by the idea of providing means for people, so they could in turn provide a means for others. I better understand the spirit of ubuntu; I cannot envision a successful career path that does not contribute to the true development of people, therefore the world.

I aspire to initiate a capital market in Swaziland that will focus on alleviating poverty and improving standards of living by improving the business models and capabilities of small and medium enterprises and tailoring the investment opportunities for the "99%." On a broader scale, it is a goal for me to improve standards of life wherever possible.

Words cannot express my gratitude for this opportunity. It is through my actions now and in the future that I hope to express how much I thank you for what you have given to me, the people of Swaziland, and the world! Ngiyabonga!



SOUTH AFRICA

Thobile Immaculate Nzimande '15

I'm in the U.S. for my final year of college and currently thinking about possible thesis topics. I have had the honor of meeting people who have given me lifelong advice and kindness. I have also become more self aware. Mr. Davis and Dr. Geier, your support has been invaluable.

"It is through my actions now and in the future that I hope to express how much I thank you for what you have given to me, the people of Swaziland, and the world!"

– Kwanele Prince Tsabedze '16

"Without the support from the Davis United World College scholarship toward my education, I would have never been able to attend Skidmore College."



ANDREA M. ROMAN ALFARO '12

I am currently back home in Peru studying for my master's degree in sociology and doing social research at the Institute of Peruvian Studies.

I also teach a class called Citizenship and Social Responsibility at the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru, the university where I am working on my master's. The tools that I acquired at Skidmore allow me to do what I do right now. I am conducting my own research projects, and I also work hand-in-hand with some of the best social researchers in Peru.

Without the support from the Davis United World College scholarship toward my education, I would have never been able to attend Skidmore College. The opportunity to study in the U.S. is unique and valuable. I will always be grateful for the chance

they gave me and their belief in young adults like me. My plans are to finish my master's degree and pursue a Ph.D. I want to combine working on and executing social research projects with becoming a professor in the future. I would love to work for the government as a result of the work I do as a social scientist.

Not many people believe it is possible to change the world by supporting agents of change. I think that taking on that premise is brave in itself. For that, I am very appreciative of the hard work of Mr. Davis and Dr. Geier.

PERU



"Thank you for being a part of positive change in our global society!"

SWAZILAND



NOMVULA KIPSY SEKWENTEKILE NDWANDWE '08

I am working for the Government of Swaziland under the Ministry of Economic Planning and Development in the Macroeconomic Analysis and Research Unit.

I have recently been awarded a Chevening Scholarship to study research in international development at the University of London (School of Oriental and African Studies). The master's program started in September 2014.

During my job search after graduation, the quality of education I received at Skidmore set me apart and enabled me to secure a stable job first with an American-based non-governmental organization, then with the government in Swaziland. Having been exposed to a liberal education, I am able to view and analyze policies about gender,

environment, and cultural perspectives, which makes things more relevant to the communities receiving the service. Creative thought still matters!

Being a Davis United World College Scholar has inspired me to stay true to the United World College values and principles at work and in my community. I believe it has also pushed me to look for more opportunities to advance my studies.

Thank you for being a part of positive change in our global society!

SYRIA

» Abd-Alrahman Al-Asaad (Abude) '17

I spent the past summer in New York City interning at the Institute for New Economics Thinking, a think tank that supports critical academic research in economic science. I worked there as a research assistant in the monetary policy department, conducting research on the spillover affect of the Federal Reserve monetary policies on the foreign stock markets.

I am treated with respect and care at Skidmore College. My professors guide me through a glorious journey of curiosity and learning.

Very simply, without the generous support of Mr. Davis and Dr. Geier, I would not have been able to attend college, and I would be in Syria, which is not the safest place on earth.

I hope that one day I will be able to give a chance to those who lack the opportunity to see the



world and contribute to it. In a broader sense, being someone who suffered from political conflicts as a Palestinian refugee growing up in Syria, I hope that one day I will be able to push the Middle East one step closer towards peace. How so? I don't know, but I will keep you posted.

I believe that "actions speak louder than words." My message of gratitude to Mr. Davis and Dr. Geier will hopefully be translated into actions one day. I can tell you now that I am committed to the mission of strengthening international understanding as a means to achieve world peace.

"I hope that one day I will be able to give a chance to those who lack the opportunity to see the world and contribute to it."

— Abd-Alrahman Al-Asaad (Abude) '17



EGYPT

Yahia Imam '11

I am currently in New York City working for Enertiv, an energy monitoring startup company. I am their lead hardware engineer, and I am responsible for developing their line of monitoring products. Skidmore's emphasis on creative thinking and interdepartmental collaboration gave me the confidence to take on big responsibilities while working for a startup company.

I am very proud and honored to be a Davis UWC scholar. I continue to learn from my fellow colleagues and peers, and I am always ready to offer help to others as it was given to me. I am planning to enter the Master of Engineering Management Program at Dartmouth College this fall. I enjoyed taking on the challenges of being an entrepreneur, and I want to continue doing so after furthering my education.



Thank you very much for all of your help and support. Your generosity helps keep a healthy and strong UWC community going during college. I believe that benefits Skidmore and other colleges as a whole because all UWC students leave a positive impact on the lives of others based on their experiences.

CHINA

Haoran Ma '12

I am currently at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, Georgia, working on my Master's degree in Information Security.

I really appreciate what I learned at Skidmore. The four-year college experience is so far the best memory in my life. It gave me the knowledge to solve problems, the traits to be a good team leader, and the ability to think creatively and effectively. It also helped me know myself better and sharpened my vision of my future goals and aspirations. The work I did at Skidmore to further develop my academics, my collaboration skills, peer-tutoring experience, involvement in conducting research as an undergraduate, and work experience in the computer technology industry set the stage for my success in graduate school.

It is wonderful to be able to share the stories and experience I had through the



Davis scholarship program with others. It definitely made me a more confident and better person. It also opened my mind so that I always think globally and comprehensively. My long-term career objective is to become a computer network consultant, a software engineer, an expert in information security, or a combination of any of those three and use my knowledge to make the world better and contribute to society.

Your help and support changed my life, and also changed the way I see the world. I will pass the love forward and make the world a better place.

"Your help and support changed my life, and also changed the way I see the world."

– Haoran Ma '12

CAMBODIA

Sovannarath In '16

I am currently a junior at Skidmore College, majoring in business and minoring in Chinese. I have learned a lot from this small community, and I am really appreciative of what Skidmore has given me.

I am grateful for being a Davis United World College scholarship recipient. It has made a huge change in my life. I have received an incredible education and continue to learn a lot from students and professors from around the world. We all are sharing and learning from each other to achieve one goal: to make the world a better place.

My future goal is to return back to my home country and work there. I want to share what I have learned in Hong Kong and the United States with the people of Cambodia. I ultimately want to be a part of the Education Ministry to make a positive change in our education system in Cambodia.



"Attending a UWC and becoming a Davis Scholar planted a seed to become a responsible citizen and prepared me to give back to the community."

JOHANE SIMELANE '13

I am at the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health in New York. I am a master's in public health candidate in the department of Health Policy and Management.

Skidmore provided me a flexible kind of liberal arts education, with adequate support, which allowed me to question my own beliefs and critically examine the many ways health sectors impact the onerous HIV/AIDS epidemic in Swaziland. I realized public health provided the best avenue for me to effect a change; hence, I pursued public health. Skidmore also provided the resources for me to conduct community projects and research in Swaziland, which kept my passion alive. Today, I am committed to returning with my MPH to help improve health systems in Swaziland and Africa as a whole.

Attending a UWC and becoming a Davis Scholar planted a seed to become a responsible citizen and prepared me to give

back to the community. My career in public health is a reflection of that seed, and it continues to be nurtured.

I intend to work in the United States for a year to gain more experience in public health, particularly "health system strengthening," and then return to Swaziland to work with the Ministry of Health to improve healthcare.

There are no words that can express my appreciation. I received an amazing opportunity for my education, but I do not see that opportunity as mine alone anymore. My education is going to be an asset for the whole population in Swaziland. I was given the chance, and next I want to give others a chance.



SWAZILAND

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"Without the Davis UWC scholarship, I would not have been able to receive a college education in the United States, especially from a private liberal arts college."

YU-LING ELAINE LAI '12

I live in San Francisco, and I am the marketing director for a chocolate boutique called Cocoabella Chocolates.

The education I received at Skidmore prepared me well for the job market. The soft and hard skills I learned such as critical thinking, writing, presentation, and research enabled me to handle a job in the business world even though I had no business or marketing training prior to taking the job. Having a job and being financially independent is one of the best feelings ever. During my four years at Skidmore, I met some of the best friends in my life, extremely inspiring professors, and

mentors. I have many great memories, and they make me the happy, confident person I am today.

Without the Davis UWC scholarship, I would not have been able to receive a college education in the United States, especially from a private liberal arts college. The scholarship not only opened a world of opportunities for me, but also helped my family tremendously.

HONG KONG

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BHUTAN

Mende Thuji Yangden '16

I am currently studying at Skidmore and plan to double major in international affairs and economics. I work as a research assistant for a professor who specializes in South Asian studies. I feel that my time here at Skidmore has not only helped me learn in terms of academics and life, but has also played a huge role in building my interest toward what I want to do in the future. Skidmore has helped me find my passion for Asian studies.

Being a Davis Scholar has kept the UWC spirit alive in me. I am always reminded where I came from. For me the Davis scholarship reinforces the UWC mission statement. I want to study international affairs of South Asia for now. However, eventually I want to do more work related to my country, Bhutan. Thank you for helping me live my post-UWC dream.



CAMBODIA

Sinhchhinh Lor '18

I am currently a junior at Skidmore College, majoring in business and minoring in Chinese. I have learned a lot from this small community, and I am really appreciative of what Skidmore has given me.

I am grateful for being a Davis United World College scholarship recipient. It has made a huge change in my life. I have received an incredible education and continue to learn a lot from students and professors from around the world. We all are sharing and learning from each other to achieve one goal: to make the world a better place.

My future goal is to return back to my home country and work there. I want to share what I have learned in Hong Kong and the United States with the people of Cambodia. I ultimately want to be a part of the Education Ministry to make a positive change in our education system in Cambodia.

"We all are sharing and learning from each other to achieve one goal: to make the world a better place."

– Sinhchhinh Lor '18

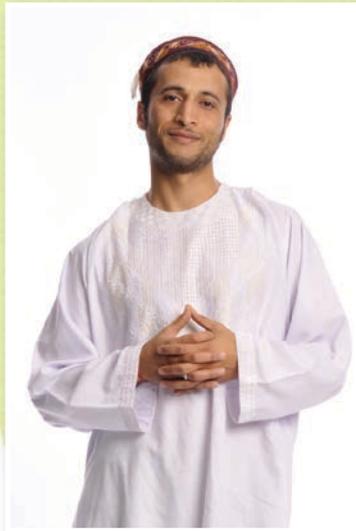
HAITI

Kengthsagn Louis '17

I am currently in the United States studying at Skidmore College; I am starting my sophomore year. Skidmore places a lot of importance on individual self-expression, and that makes it a great atmosphere to stand up for my beliefs. I cherish that honor, and because of that I make sure that I am fully invested in my academics and social responsibility. Being a Davis UWC scholar makes me feel more aware of my impact on my community as a world citizen.

My ultimate goals are finishing my undergraduate and graduate degrees in Organizational Psychology, starting my business in Haiti, and becoming an active lobbyist for women's rights in Haiti. Hopefully, all of these will enable me to touch other people's lives for the better and bring hope and assistance to those in need of it.

Thank you so much for helping me achieve my lifetime goals. Most importantly, thank you for giving me the opportunity to meet other people who inspire me to aim higher and make me still believe that fighting for a better world is worthwhile.



AFGHANISTAN

« Sayed Jawed Sarchashmah '10

I am currently residing in Washington, D.C. I enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and served for one deployment in Afghanistan, and I recently returned to the United States. The education, experience, and responsibilities I was blessed with at Skidmore College played a pivotal role in my admission to the School of Foreign Service, Security Studies Program at Georgetown University and my life today. Skidmore College's rigorous academic environment, diverse community, and excellent government department enabled me to be a successful professional in my respected field.

The impact has been enormous. The possibilities and endless opportunities

emerged as a result of my affiliation with both Davis United World College and Skidmore College. My goal is to be a professional in my field, and my aspiration is to be committed to making our world a more peaceful and secure place to live.

Mr. Davis and Dr. Geier, welcome to Skidmore College; I'm sure many of the Davis Scholars, alongside Mr. Drabek, are looking forward to welcoming you to one of the most beautiful college campuses in the world. I'm sure you will be overwhelmed by the success stories and what your foundation has made possible. You have made the dreams of thousands come true through education. I would like to express my gratitude to you for giving us all the opportunity of our lifetimes: to be able to have a world-class education.

.....
"You have made the dreams of thousands come true through education."

– Sayed Jawed Sarchashmah '10

"Your financial support not only helps us, but indirectly the lives of others around the world as we all ambitiously seek to make the world a better place."

RASHAN SMITH '17

I am currently a sophomore at Skidmore College, planning to double major in computer science and international affairs. My life is a continuous learning experience in and outside of the classroom.

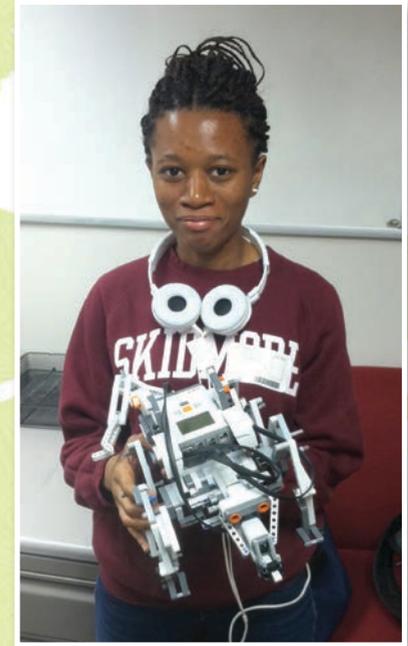
At Skidmore "Creative Thought Matters," and with every class, club meeting, or event on campus and in Saratoga Springs I am finding new ways to incorporate my passions into other areas I would have never thought of otherwise. Skidmore has definitely made me a curious individual who wants to learn as much as possible, and help create change wherever I can.

The opportunity to attend UWC and receive the Davis United World College Scholarship has definitely impacted my path in life in many ways. My UWC experience helped me realize that I love helping people. Due to the richness of the liberal arts education at Skidmore, I am not only advancing my knowledge in computer science, but I am able to study other areas, showing me the different ways I can use my passion to create change.

I would love to work with Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

(STEM) disciplines in terms of international development, working with rural and poverty stricken communities particularly within Latin America and the Caribbean. My goal is to help these communities find sustainable and cost effective ways to incorporate effective STEM education into the schools, as well as help organizations in the local communities cost effectively keep up to date and equipped with basic technology. I would like to help further advance minorities in STEM fields.

I would not have been able to attend Skidmore College without you. Thank you so much for not only supporting me, but the thousands of other UWC graduates who are eager to further their education after an amazing two years of life-changing experiences. As a result, your financial support not only helps us, but indirectly the lives of others around the world as we all ambitiously seek to make the world a better place.



THE BAHAMAS



"I owe both Mr. Davis and Dr. Geier my life. I am where I am today because of them, and I will do my best to carry their vision forward as a Davis Scholar."

JESINA MUVEKWA '15

I am a senior at Skidmore College and an economics and international affairs double major. My time at Skidmore has been an incredible journey; I have grown so much academically, socially, and emotionally.

This is my last year at Skidmore, and I can't help but look back and thank all the people who have made it possible. That includes Shelby Davis, Phil Geier, UWC Waterford, and Skidmore College. So many opportunities have come my way. I have access to the quality of education that neither my family nor I could afford. I also had the opportunity to study abroad in London at one of the best schools: The School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. I was appointed a Global Youth Ambassador for A World at School—an organization devoted to providing education to the 58 million children across the globe who are not in school. Education is the key to opportunity, and without Mr. Davis and Dr. Geier, I would not have had all of these opportunities.

I am a Davis Scholar; just knowing that someone believes in the power of

education and is willing to generously give their wealth for our benefit is a powerful motivator to continue fighting for other children who still don't have access to education. It is the reason why I have joined a global campaign together with A World at School to fight for quality education. I am becoming more interested in developmental economics, and I want to see countries grow and develop, and see all citizens benefit from that growth. I would also love to continue advocating for quality education especially in Zimbabwean rural schools.

I owe both Mr. Davis and Dr. Geier my life. I am where I am today because of them, and I will do my best to carry their vision forward as a Davis Scholar. My thank you gift would be helping other students who still don't have access to education in their honor. I will do this in recognition of their generosity and belief in education.

ZIMBABWE

INDIA

↳ **Surbhi Hablani '14**

I am back in India after having graduated from Skidmore College in May 2014. I am gearing up to start research with the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research in Hyderabad and preparing for graduate school applications. My life today is wonderful as a result of my experiences at Skidmore College. Coming from a small community of 200 United World College students, Skidmore was the right size school and allowed me to better understand the concept of responsibility. That certainly has shaped who I am today.

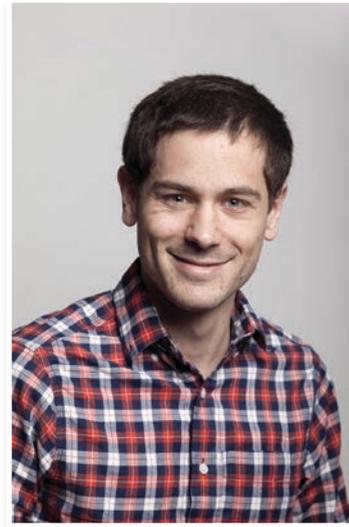
It is an honor and a privilege to be associated with the Davis family. The network of people that the Davis UWC scholarship program has allowed me to reach out to is massive, and



I will always be grateful for it. My ultimate goal is to go on to graduate-level education and perhaps be able to provide a service for the betterment of the community. As a physics major, there is so much that needs to be addressed and I'd like to be able to contribute to the scientific community. I would like to give a sincere thank you for all of your generosity. My undergraduate education would not have been possible without your support. I hope I will make you proud of the investment you've made in me.



"My undergraduate education would not have been possible without your support. I hope I will make you proud of the investment you've made in me."
 – Surbhi Hablani '14



CHILE

↳ **Nicolas Raga '10**

I'm currently working for a strategy consulting firm in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The path my life has followed since UWC, through Skidmore, has been incredibly enriching. My time at Skidmore opened doors to opportunities I could not have imagined a few years ago. My subsequent studies at the London School of Economics and work experiences in three different countries have been key for my personal and professional development. Needless to say, this would not have been possible without the foundation from UWC and Skidmore.

The Davis scholarship gave me access to an excellent, well-rounded education, as well as novel life experiences. Through those means, the scholarship empowered me to take on challenges that allow me to continuously develop as an individual. I have modest yet fulfilling aspirations: I want to continue my personal development in the future, and I want to give back some of what I have been lucky enough to receive. I'm enormously grateful for the support given to all of us. I would like to thank you, Mr. Davis and Dr. Geier, for changing so many lives.

CLASS OF 2008

Su-Xin Cheah, *Malaysia*
Joseph Kaifala, *Sierra Leone*
Nomvula Kipsy Ndwandwe,
Swaziland
Shruti Subramanian, *India*

CLASS OF 2009

Munkhtsetseg Ayurzana, *Mongolia*
Nkhahle Marumo, *Lesotho*
Chukwuemeka Onyenwe, *Nigeria*

CLASS OF 2010

Ermir Bejo, *Albania*
Sonate Gandonu, *Nigeria*
Sadiatu Kamara, *Sierra Leone*
Kalu Long, *USA*
Mlungisi Ndwandwe, *Swaziland*
Nicolas Raga, *Chile*
Sayed Sarchashmah, *Afghanistan*

CLASS OF 2011

Fortunato De Sousa, *Angola*
Yahia Imam, *Egypt*
Wisam Khaleefah, *Iraq*
Ali Shareef, *Maldives*
Siphiwangubani Sikhondze,
Swaziland
Tsepang Tsolele, *Lesotho*

CLASS OF 2012

Anisha Asundi, *India*
Penhleak Chan, *Cambodia*
Yinebeb Girma, *Ethiopia*
Subhi Hossain, *Bangladesh*
Animee Iradukunda, *Rwanda*
Yu-Ling Lai, *China*
Haoran Ma, *China*
Andrea Roman Alfaro, *Peru*
Arshiya Sayeed, *India*

CLASS OF 2013

Maria Alandia, *Bolivia*
Ahmad Almanassra, *Gaza Strip*
Maja Cabarkapa, *Serbia &*
Montenegro
Anna Chitman, *Thailand*
Francis Henares, *Phillipines*
Prince Moses, *Sierra Leone*
Mikhail Reutski, *Belarus*
Avani Sharma, *USA*
Johane Simelane, *Swaziland*
Ajibu Timbo, *Sierra Leone*
Suren Tripathi, *India*

CLASS OF 2014

Kriti Behari, *India*
Salome Egas, *Ecuador*
Surbhi Hablani, *India*
Yaomingxin Lu, *China*
Ayelen Pagnanelli, *Argentina*
Tashi Sherpa, *Nepal*
Phiwokuhle Shongwe, *Swaziland*

CLASS OF 2015

Nayantara Bhandari, *India*
Sibonginkhosi Gama, *Swaziland*
Maya Gurung, *Nepal*
Musa Komeh, *Sierra Leone*
Romeo Makore, *Zimbabwe*
Abdelmonem Mislati, *Libya*
Jesina Muvekwa, *Zimbabwe*
Nilendra Nair, *Fiji*
Thobile Nzimande, *South Africa*
Kim Siew Hew Sam, *Mauritius*
Ahmed Wheida, *Libya*
Nikhita Winkler, *Namibia*



CLASS OF 2016

Mohamed Arfaoui, *Tunisia*
Meti Debela, *Ethiopia*
Mysha Didi, *Maldives*
Sovannarath In, *Cambodia*
Fathmath Khaleel, *Maldives*
Stella Langat, *Kenya*
Maria Mayboeck, *Austria*
Helen Mebrate, *Ethiopia*
Emebet Tessema, *Ethiopia*
Kwanele Tsabedze, *Swaziland*
Mende Yangden, *Bhutan*

CLASS OF 2017

Abd-Alrahman Al-Asaad, *Syria*
Tanya Bajwa, *Austria*
Kengthsagn Louis, *Haiti*
Ashley Saiwa, *Malawi*
Tesfahunegn Sina, *Ethiopia*
Rashan Smith, *The Bahamas*
Yamile Villarroel Caldera, *Bolivia*

CLASS OF 2018

Langa Bakhuluma-Ncube,
Zimbabwe
Wallace Anne Cloud, *USA*
Sinhchhinh Lor, *Cambodia*
Alexia Muhire Nshuti, *Rwanda*
Miary Rasoanaivo, *Madagascar*
Nathanael Rehmyer, *USA*
Themba Shongwe, *Swaziland*
Thuy Duong Tran Thi, *Vietnam*
Chidubem Udeoji, *Nigeria*



Creative Thought Matters